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SUBJECT: HUNGARY: OFFICIAL MFA STATEMENT ON USG INITIATIVE

TOWARD IRAN

REF: SECSTATE 87682

(U) On June 1, the MFA released the following statement of Hungary's position on the U.S. initiative for talks with Iran, Embassy translation of the original Hungarian follows:

(begin text:)

The Hungarian government welcomes the statement yesterday of U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice on Iran's nuclear program and talks to be conducted in relation to this matter.

According to the Hungarian position the proposals of the statement would move the debate over Iran's nuclear program out of the deadlock and facilitate direct participation by the United States in working out a long-term solution. Iran should carry out a complete and verifiable suspension of its uranium enrichment program.

The Hungarian government agrees with European Union's chief Commissioner Javier Solana that strengthening the United States' readiness for immediate talks is a strong and positive sign that the international community would like to achieve an agreement with Iran.

(end text)

The independent news portals www.politikaforum.hu, www.uno.hu and www.objektivhir.hu all carried the MFA statement. WALKER